

# Union Calendar No. 635

115TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 66

[Report No. 115-821]

To establish the Route 66 Centennial Commission, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to prepare a plan on the preservation needs of Route 66, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 3, 2017

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois (for himself, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. LAHOOD, Mr. KINZINGER, Mr. BOST, Mr. SCHIFF, Mrs. WAGNER, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. LIPINSKI, Mr. LONG, Mr. LUCAS, and Mr. FOSTER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

JULY 16, 2018

Additional sponsors: Ms. JENKINS of Kansas, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. AGUILAR, Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico, Mr. O'HALLERAN, Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico, Mr. THORNBERRY, Mr. LUETKEMEYER, Mr. DENHAM, Mr. MACARTHUR, Mr. SMUCKER, Mr. SIRES, Mr. ROUZER, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. KATKO, Mr. CORREA, Mr. GRAVES of Louisiana, Ms. NORTON, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. SHERMAN, Ms. ROSEN, Mrs. TORRES, Mr. BARLETTA, Mr. DELANEY, Mr. CLAY, Mr. GOMEZ, Ms. BASS, Mr. TED LIEU of California, Mr. GUTIÉRREZ, Mr. RUSH, and Mr. DANNY K. DAVIS of Illinois

JULY 16, 2018

Reported with an amendment, committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union, and ordered to be printed

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

[For text of introduced bill, see copy of bill as introduced on January 3, 2017]

# A BILL

To establish the Route 66 Centennial Commission, to direct the Secretary of Transportation to prepare a plan on the preservation needs of Route 66, and for other purposes.

1       *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2   *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3   **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4       *This Act may be cited as the “Route 66 Centennial*  
5   *Commission Act”.*

6   **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7       *Congress makes the following findings:*

8           (1) *Route 66 was the Nation’s first all-paved*  
9   *highway under the U.S. Highway System connecting*  
10   *the Midwest to California and has played a major*  
11   *role in the history of the United States.*

12          (2) *Route 66 was the symbol of opportunity to*  
13   *hundreds of thousands of people seeking escape from*  
14   *the Dust Bowl in the 1930s, serving as a “road to op-*  
15   *portunity” in the West and providing employment*  
16   *during the Great Depression, as thousands were put*  
17   *to work on road crews to pave the road.*

18          (3) *Route 66 was invaluable in transporting*  
19   *troops, equipment, and supplies across the country to*  
20   *the West, where the government established multiple*  
21   *industries and armed force bases during World War*  
22   *II. Upon the conclusion of the war in 1945, Route 66*  
23   *was a key route taken by thousands of troops as they*  
24   *returned home.*

1                   (4) *Route 66 symbolized the Nation's positive  
2 outlook during the postwar economic recovery in the  
3 1950s and 1960s, serving as an icon of free-spirited  
4 independence and linking people across the United  
5 States. During this period, the tourist industry along  
6 Route 66 grew tremendously, giving rise to countless  
7 tourist courts, motels, service stations, garages, and  
8 diners.*

9                   (5) *Since June 27, 1985, when Route 66 was de-  
10 commissionned as a Federal highway, the popularity  
11 and mythical stature of Route 66 has grown domesti-  
12 cally and internationally, as the road has experienced  
13 a rebirth of interest and support.*

14                  (6) *The year 2026 will be the centennial anni-  
15 versary of Route 66, and a commission should be es-  
16 tablished to study and recommend to Congress activi-  
17 ties that are fitting and proper to celebrate that anni-  
18 versary in a manner that appropriately honors Amer-  
19 ica's Mother Road.*

20 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT.**

21                  *There is established a commission to be known as the  
22 Route 66 Centennial Commission (referred to in this Act  
23 as the "Commission").*

24 **SEC. 4. DUTIES.**

25                  *The Commission shall have the following duties:*

1                   (1) *To study activities that may be carried out  
2 by the Federal Government to determine whether the  
3 activities are fitting and proper to honor Route 66 on  
4 the occasion of its centennial anniversary, including  
5 any of the activities described under section  
6 8(b)(2)(B).*

7                   (2) *To recommend to Congress the activities the  
8 Commission considers most fitting and proper to  
9 honor Route 66 on such occasion, to be carried out by  
10 the Department of Transportation and any other en-  
11 tity or entities within the Federal Government that  
12 the Commission considers most appropriate to carry  
13 out such activities.*

14                  (3) *To plan and host, in cooperation with such  
15 partners, a conference on the U.S. Numbered High-  
16 way System, and assist in the activities of such a  
17 conference.*

18 **SEC. 5. MEMBERSHIP.**

19                  (a) *NUMBER AND APPOINTMENT.—The Commission  
20 shall be composed of 19 members appointed as follows:*

21                  (1) *Three members, each of whom shall be a  
22 qualified citizen described in subsection (b), ap-  
23 pointed by the President.*

24                  (2) *Two members, each of whom shall be a qualifi-  
25 fied citizen described in subsection (b), appointed by*

1       *the President on the recommendation of the Secretary*  
2       *of Transportation.*

3           *(3) One member, who shall be a qualified citizen*  
4       *described in subsection (b), appointed by the Presi-*  
5       *dent on the recommendation of the Governor of Illi-*  
6       *nois.*

7           *(4) One member, who shall be a qualified citizen*  
8       *described in subsection (b), appointed by the Presi-*  
9       *dent on the recommendation of the Governor of Mis-*  
10      *souri.*

11       *(5) One member, who shall be a qualified citizen*  
12      *described in subsection (b), appointed by the Presi-*  
13      *dent on the recommendation of the Governor of Kan-*  
14      *sas.*

15       *(6) One member, who shall be a qualified citizen*  
16      *described in subsection (b), appointed by the Presi-*  
17      *dent on the recommendation of the Governor of Okla-*  
18      *homa.*

19       *(7) One member, who shall be a qualified citizen*  
20      *described in subsection (b), appointed by the Presi-*  
21      *dent on the recommendation of the Governor of Texas.*

22       *(8) One member, who shall be a qualified citizen*  
23      *described in subsection (b), appointed by the Presi-*  
24      *dent on the recommendation of the Governor of New*  
25      *Mexico.*

1                   (9) One member, who shall be a qualified citizen  
2       described in subsection (b), appointed by the Presi-  
3       dent on the recommendation of the Governor of Ari-  
4       zona.

5                   (10) One member, who shall be a qualified cit-  
6       izen described in subsection (b), appointed by the  
7       President on the recommendation of the Governor of  
8       California.

9                   (11) Three members, each of whom shall be a  
10      qualified citizen described in subsection (b), ap-  
11      pointed by the President on the recommendation of  
12      the Speaker of the House of Representatives, in con-  
13      sultation with the minority leader of the House of  
14      Representatives.

15                  (12) Three members, each of whom shall be a  
16      qualified citizen described in subsection (b), ap-  
17      pointed by the President on the recommendation of  
18      the majority leader of the Senate, in consultation  
19      with the minority leader of the Senate.

20                  (b) **QUALIFIED CITIZEN.**—A qualified citizen described  
21      in this subsection is a private citizen of the United States  
22      with—

23                  (1) a demonstrated dedication to educating oth-  
24      ers about the importance of historical figures and  
25      events; and

1                   (2) substantial knowledge and appreciation of  
2                   Route 66.

3                   (c) *TIME OF APPOINTMENT.*—Each initial appointment  
4                   of a member of the Commission shall be made before  
5                   the expiration of the 120-day period beginning on the date  
6                   of the enactment of this Act.

7                   (d) *CONTINUATION OF MEMBERSHIP.*—If a member of  
8                   the Commission was appointed to the Commission as a  
9                   Member of Congress, and ceases to be a Member of Congress,  
10                  that member may continue to serve on the Commission for  
11                  not longer than the 30-day period beginning on the date  
12                  that member ceases to be a Member of Congress.

13                  (e) *TERMS.*—Each member shall be appointed for the  
14                  life of the Commission.

15                  (f) *VACANCIES.*—A vacancy in the Commission shall  
16                  not affect the powers of the Commission but shall be filled  
17                  in the manner in which the original appointment was  
18                  made.

19                  (g) *BASIC PAY.*—Members shall serve on the Commission without pay.

21                  (h) *TRAVEL EXPENSES.*—Each member shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with sections 5702 and 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

1       (i) *QUORUM.*—Seven members of the Commission shall  
2 constitute a quorum but a lesser number may hold hearings.

3       (j) *CHAIR.*—The President, in consultation with the  
4 Secretary of Transportation, shall designate one member of  
5 the Commission as Chair.

6       (k) *MEETINGS.*—The Commission shall meet at the call  
7 of the Chair.

8 **SEC. 6. DIRECTOR AND STAFF.**

9       (a) *DIRECTOR.*—The Commission may appoint and  
10 fix the pay of a Director and such additional personnel as  
11 the Commission considers to be appropriate.

12       (b) *APPLICABILITY OF CERTAIN CIVIL SERVICE  
13 LAWS.*—

14           (1) *DIRECTOR.*—The Director of the Commission  
15 may be appointed without regard to the provisions of  
16 title 5, United States Code, governing appointments  
17 in the competitive service, and may be paid without  
18 regard to the provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter  
19 III of chapter 53 of that title relating to classification  
20 and General Schedule pay rates.

21           (2) *STAFF.*—The staff of the Commission shall be  
22 appointed subject to the provisions of title 5, United  
23 States Code, governing appointments in the competi-  
24 tive service, and shall be paid in accordance with the  
25 provisions of chapter 51 and subchapter III of chap-

1       ter 53 of that title relating to classification and Gen-  
2       eral Schedule pay rates.

3       **SEC. 7. POWERS.**

4       (a) *HEARINGS AND SESSIONS.*—The Commission may,  
5       for the purpose of carrying out this Act, hold such hearings,  
6       sit and act at such times and places, take such testimony,  
7       and receive such evidence as the Commission considers to  
8       be appropriate.

9       (b) *POWERS OF MEMBERS AND AGENTS.*—Any mem-  
10      ber or agent of the Commission may, if authorized by the  
11      Commission, take any action that the Commission is au-  
12      thorized to take by this Act.

13       (c) *OBTAINING OFFICIAL DATA.*—The Commission  
14      may secure directly from any department or agency of the  
15      United States information necessary to enable the Commis-  
16      sion to carry out this Act. Upon request of the Chair of  
17      the Commission, the head of that department or agency  
18      shall furnish that information to the Commission.

19       (d) *MAILS.*—The Commission may use the United  
20      States mails in the same manner and under the same condi-  
21      tions as other departments and agencies of the United  
22      States.

23       (e) *ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT SERVICES.*—Upon the  
24      request of the Commission, the Administrator of General  
25      Services shall provide to the Commission, on a reimbursable

1 basis, the administrative support services necessary for the  
2 Commission to carry out its responsibilities under this Act.

3 **SEC. 8. REPORTS.**

4 (a) *INTERIM REPORTS.*—The Commission may submit  
5 to Congress such interim reports as the Commission con-  
6 siders to be appropriate.

7 (b) *COMPREHENSIVE REPORT.*—

8 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—Not later than 5 years after  
9 the date of enactment of this Act, the Commission  
10 shall submit to the President and Congress a report  
11 incorporating specific recommendations for the com-  
12 memoration of the centennial of Route 66 and related  
13 events.

14 (2) *CONTENTS OF REPORT.*—The report under  
15 paragraph (1)—

16 (A) shall include recommendations for the  
17 allocation of financial and administrative re-  
18 sponsibility among the public and private au-  
19 thorities and organizations recommended for  
20 participation by the Commission; and

21 (B) may recommend activities such as—

22 (i) the production, publication, and  
23 distribution of books, pamphlets, films, elec-  
24 tronic publications, and other educational  
25 materials focusing on the history and im-

1           *pact of Route 66 on the United States and*  
2           *the world;*

3           (iii) *bibliographical and documentary*  
4           *projects, publications, and electronic re-*  
5           *sources;*

6           (iv) *conferences, convocations, lectures,*  
7           *seminars, and other programs;*

8           (v) *the development of programs by*  
9           *and for libraries, museums, parks, and his-*  
10          *toric sites, including national traveling ex-*  
11          *hibitions;*

12          (vi) *ceremonies and celebrations com-*  
13          *memorating specific events;*

14          (vii) *the production, distribution, and*  
15          *performance of artistic works, and of pro-*  
16          *grams and activities, focusing on the na-*  
17          *tional and international significance of*  
18          *Route 66; and*

19          (viii) *the issuance of commemorative*  
20          *coins, medals, certificates of recognition,*  
21          *and postage stamps.*

22          (c) *FINAL REPORT.—The Commission shall submit to*  
23          *the President and Congress a final report not later than*  
24          *90 days before the termination of the Commission provided*  
25          *in section 10.*

1   **SEC. 9. PLAN ON PRESERVATION NEEDS OF ROUTE 66.**

2       (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary of Transportation,*  
3   *in consultation with the Governors referred to in section*  
4   *5(a), shall prepare a plan on the preservation needs of*  
5   *Route 66.*

6       (b) *REPORT TO CONGRESS.*—*Not later than 3 years*  
7   *after the date of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall*  
8   *submit to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastruc-*  
9   *ture of the House of Representatives, the Committee on En-*  
10   *vironment and Public Works of the Senate, and the Presi-*  
11   *dent a report containing the plan prepared under sub-*  
12   *section (a).*

13   **SEC. 10. TERMINATION.**

14       *The Commission shall terminate not later than June*  
15   *30, 2027.*

16   **SEC. 11. CLARIFICATION REGARDING FUNDING.**

17       *No additional funds are authorized to carry out the*  
18   *requirements of this Act. Such requirements may be carried*  
19   *out using amounts otherwise authorized or made available*  
20   *for the Department of Transportation, except for amounts*  
21   *authorized from the Highway Trust Fund.*

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2D SESSION

**H. R. 66**

[Report No. 115-821]

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